

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A sprinkler system comprising:

one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate an amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal;

a master unit adapted to transmit digital data; and

a sprinkler controller comprising

a receiver adapted to receive a signal representing the digital data;

a media access controller adapted to obtain the digital data from the signal; and

a processor adapted to produce the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller; and

an output circuit adapted to provide the control signal to the sprinklers.

2. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;

meteorological conditions; and

a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

3. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 2, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises:

a timer adapted to provide a time signal representing a time of day;

wherein the processor is adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the time signal.

4. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1:

wherein the receiver is further adapted to receive a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors; and

wherein the processor is further adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the sensor signal.

5. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 4, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a pressure of the fluid,

a flow rate of the fluid,

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

6. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 4, further comprising:

the one or more sensors.

7. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises:

a keypad adapted to provide a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad;

wherein the processor is further adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the keypad control signal.

8. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises:

a display adapted to display a status of the sprinkler controller.

9. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

10. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.

11. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 10, wherein the receiver complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;
IEEE 802.11i;
Short Messaging Service (SMS); and
Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

12. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 1, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises:

a memory adapted to store a sprinkler schedule; and
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule.

13. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 12:
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule stored in the memory when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

14. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 13:
wherein the memory is non-volatile.

15. (Original) A sprinkler system comprising:
one or more sprinkler means each comprising a sprinkler valve means for regulating an amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler means in response to a control signal;

master unit means for transmitting digital data; and
sprinkler controller means comprising
receiver means for receiving a signal representing the digital data;
media access controller means for obtaining the digital data from the signal, and
processor means for producing the control signal based on the digital data
obtained by the media access controller; and
output means for providing the control signal to the sprinklers.

16. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;
meteorological conditions; and
a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

17. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 16, wherein the sprinkler controller means further comprises:

timer means for providing a time signal representing a time of day;
wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the time signal.

18. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15:
wherein the receiver means receives a sensor signal provided by one or more sensor means; and

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the sensor signal.

19. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 18, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

- a pressure of the fluid,
- a flow rate of the fluid,
- a sunlight intensity,
- an ambient temperature, and
- a relative humidity.

20. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 18, further comprising:
the one or more sensor means.

21. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15, wherein the sprinkler controller means further comprises:

keypad means for providing a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad means;

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the keypad control signal.

22. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15, wherein the sprinkler controller means further comprises:

display means for displaying a status of the sprinkler controller means.

23. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

24. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15, wherein the receiver means is wireless.

25. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 24, wherein the receiver means complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;

IEEE 802.11i;

Short Messaging Service (SMS); and

Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

26. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 15, wherein the sprinkler controller means further comprises:

memory means for storing a sprinkler schedule; and

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule.

27. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 26:
wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule stored in the memory means when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

28. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 27:
wherein the memory means is non-volatile.

29. (Original) A sprinkler controller for controlling one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate an amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal, the sprinkler controller comprising:

- a receiver adapted to receive a signal representing digital data;
- a media access controller adapted to obtain the digital data from the signal; and
- a processor adapted produce the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller; and

an output circuit adapted to provide the control signal to the sprinklers.

30. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:
a desired sprinkler operation schedule;

meteorological conditions; and

a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

31. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 30, further comprising:
a timer adapted to provide a time signal representing a time of day;

wherein the processor is adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the time signal.

32. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29:
wherein the receiver is further adapted to receive a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors; and

wherein the processor is further adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the sensor signal.

33. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 32, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a pressure of the fluid,

a flow rate of the fluid,

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

34. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 32, further comprising:

the one or more sensors.

35. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29, further comprising:
a keypad adapted to provide a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad;

wherein the processor is further adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the keypad control signal.

36. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29, further comprising:
a display adapted to display a status of the sprinkler controller.

37. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

38. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.

39. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 38, wherein the receiver complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;

IEEE 802.11i;

Short Messaging Service (SMS); and

Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

40. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 29, further comprising:
a memory adapted to store a sprinkler schedule; and
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule.

41. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 40:
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule stored in the memory when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

42. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 41:
wherein the memory is non-volatile.

43. (Original) A sprinkler controller for controlling one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate an amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal, the sprinkler controller comprising:
receiver means for receiving a signal representing digital data;
media access controller means for obtaining the digital data from the signal, and

processor means for producing the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means; and
output circuit means for providing the control signal to the sprinklers.

44. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;
meteorological conditions; and
a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

45. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 44, further comprising:
timer means for providing a time signal representing a time of day;
wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the time signal.

46. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43:
wherein the receiver means receives a sensor signal provided by one or more sensor means; and
wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the sensor signal.

47. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 46, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a pressure of the fluid,
a flow rate of the fluid,
a sunlight intensity,
an ambient temperature, and
a relative humidity.

48. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 46, further comprising:
the one or more sensor means.

49. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43, further comprising:
keypad means for providing a keypad control signal in response to operation of
the keypad means;
wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital
data obtained by the media access controller means and the keypad control signal.

50. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43, further comprising:
display means for displaying a status of the sprinkler controller.

51. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43, wherein the processor
means and the media access controller means are implemented together as a single
integrated circuit.

52. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43, wherein the receiver means is wireless.

53. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 52, wherein the receiver means complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;

IEEE 802.11i;

Short Messaging Service (SMS); and

Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

54. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 43, further comprising:
memory means for storing a sprinkler schedule; and
wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule.

55. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 54:
wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule stored in the memory means when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

56. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 55:
wherein the memory means is non-volatile.

57. (Original) A method for controlling one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate an amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal, the method comprising:

receiving a signal representing digital data;
obtaining the digital data from the signal;
decoding the digital data; and
providing a control signal to the sprinklers based on the digital data.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;
meteorological conditions; and
a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

59. (Original) The method of claim 58, further comprising:
providing a time signal representing a time of day; and
providing the control signal based on the digital data and the time signal.

60. (Original) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

receiving a sensor signal; and

providing the control signal based on the data and the sensor signal.

61. (Original) The method of claim 60, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a pressure of the fluid,

a flow rate of the fluid,

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

62. (Original) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

receiving a keypad control signal representing operation of a keypad; and

providing the control signal based on the digital data and the keypad control signal.

63. (Original) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

displaying a status of the sprinkler controller.

64. (Original) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

storing a sprinkler schedule; and

wherein control signal is based on the sprinkler schedule.

65. (Original) The method of claim 64, further comprising:
producing the control signal based on the stored sprinkler schedule when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

66. (Original) A computer program embodying instructions executable by a computer for controlling one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate an amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal, the computer program comprising:

obtaining the digital data from a received signal representing the digital data;
decoding the digital data; and
providing a control signal to the sprinklers based on the data.

67. (Original) The computer program of claim 66, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;
meteorological conditions; and
a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

68. (Original) The computer program of claim 67, further comprising:
providing a time signal representing a time of day; and
providing the control signal based on the digital data and the time signal.

69. (Original) The computer program of claim 66, further comprising:

receiving a sensor signal; and

providing the control signal based on the digital data and the sensor signal.

70. (Original) The computer program of claim 69, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a pressure of the fluid,

a flow rate of the fluid,

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

71. (Original) The computer program of claim 66, further comprising:
receiving a keypad control signal representing operation of a keypad; and
providing the control signal based on the digital data and the keypad control signal.

72. (Original) The computer program of claim 66, further comprising:
displaying a status of the sprinkler controller.

73. (Original) The computer program of claim 66, further comprising:
storing a sprinkler schedule; and
wherein control signal is based on the sprinkler schedule.

74. (Original) The computer program of claim 73:
producing the control signal based on the stored sprinkler schedule when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

75. (Original) An integrated circuit to control a sprinkler controller for controlling one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate the amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal, wherein the sprinkler controller comprises a receiver adapted to receive a signal representing digital data and an output circuit adapted to provide the control signal to the sprinklers in response to a control signal, the integrated circuit comprising:

a media access controller adapted to obtain digital data from a signal received by a receiver of the sprinkler controller, the signal representing the digital data, and

a processor adapted to produce the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller.

76. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 75, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;

meteorological conditions; and

a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

77. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 75, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises a sensor adapted to provide a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors in response to meteorological conditions:

wherein the processor is adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the sensor signal.

78. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 77, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

sunlight intensity;

an ambient temperature; and

a relative humidity.

79. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 75, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises a timer adapted to provide a time signal representing a time of day:

wherein the processor is adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the time signal.

80. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 75, further comprising:
a memory adapted to store a sprinkler schedule; and

wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule.

81. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 80:

wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule stored in the memory when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

82. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 81:

wherein the memory is non-volatile.

83. (Original) An integrated circuit to control a sprinkler controller for controlling one or more sprinklers each comprising a sprinkler valve adapted to regulate the amount of fluid delivered by the sprinkler in response to a control signal, wherein the sprinkler controller comprises a receiver adapted to receive a signal representing digital data and an output circuit adapted to provide the control signal to the sprinklers in response to a control signal, the integrated circuit comprising:

media access controller means for obtaining digital data from a signal received by a receiver of the sprinkler controller, the signal representing the digital data; and

processor means for producing the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means.

84. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 83, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired sprinkler operation schedule;

meteorological conditions; and

a status of a fluid supply system supplying the fluid to the sprinklers.

85. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 83, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises a sensor adapted to provide a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors in response to meteorological conditions:

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the sensor signal.

86. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 85, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

sunlight intensity;

an ambient temperature; and

a relative humidity.

87. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 83, wherein the sprinkler controller further comprises a timer adapted to provide a time signal representing a time of day:

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the time signal.

88. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 83, further comprising:

memory means for storing a sprinkler schedule; and

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule.

89. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 88:

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the sprinkler schedule stored in the memory means when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

90. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 89:

wherein the memory means is non-volatile.

91-104. (Cancelled)

105. (Original) An environmental control system comprising:

an environmental control unit adapted to control one or more environmental variables in response to a control signal;

a master unit adapted to transmit digital data; and

a controller comprising

a receiver adapted to receive a signal representing the digital data;

a media access controller adapted to obtain the digital data from the signal, and

a processor adapted to produce the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller; and

an output circuit adapted to provide the control signal to the environmental control unit.

106. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and
meteorological conditions.

107. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105:
wherein the receiver is further adapted to receive a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors in response to meteorological conditions; and

wherein the processor is further adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the sensor signal.

108. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 107, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a sunlight intensity,
an ambient temperature, and
a relative humidity.

109. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 107, further comprising:

the one or more sensors.

110. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105, wherein the controller further comprises:

a keypad adapted to provide a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad;

wherein the processor is adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the keypad control signal.

111. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105, wherein the controller further comprises:

a display adapted to display a status of the controller.

112. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

113. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.

114. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 113, wherein the receiver complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;
IEEE 802.11g;
IEEE 802.11h;
IEEE 802.11i;
Short Messaging Service (SMS); and
Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

115. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 105, wherein the controller further comprises:

a memory adapted to store a schedule; and
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the schedule.

116. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 115:
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the schedule stored in the memory when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

117. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 116:
wherein the memory is non-volatile.

118. (Original) An environmental control system comprising:

environmental control unit means for controlling one or more environmental variables in response to a control signal;

master unit means for transmitting digital data; and

controller means comprising

receiver means for receiving a signal representing the digital data;

media access controller means for obtaining the digital data from the signal, and

digital signal processor means for producing the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means; and

output circuit means for providing the control signal to the environmental control unit means.

119. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and

meteorological conditions.

120. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118:
wherein the receiver means receives a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors means in response to meteorological conditions; and

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the sensor signal.

121. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 120, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

122. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 120, further comprising:

the one or more sensor means.

123. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118, wherein the controller means further comprises:

keypad means for providing a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad means;

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the keypad control signal.

124. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118, wherein the controller means further comprises:

display means displaying a status of the controller means.

125. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

126. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118, wherein the receiver means is wireless.

127. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 126, wherein the receiver means complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;

IEEE 802.11i;

Short Messaging Service (SMS); and

Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

128. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 118, wherein the controller means further comprises:

memory means for storing a schedule; and

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the schedule.

129. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 128:

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the schedule stored in the memory means when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

130. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 129:

wherein the memory means is non-volatile.

131. (Original) A controller for controlling an environmental control unit, the controller comprising:

a receiver adapted to receive a signal representing digital data;

a media access controller adapted to obtain the digital data from the signal; and

a processor adapted to produce a control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller; and

an output circuit adapted to provide the control signal to the environmental control unit.

132. (Original) The controller of claim 131, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and

meteorological conditions.

133. (Original) The controller of claim 131:

wherein the receiver is further adapted to receive a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors in response to environmental conditions; and

wherein the processor is further adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the sensor signal.

134. (Original) The controller of claim 133, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

135. (Original) The controller of claim 133, further comprising:
the one or more sensors.

136. (Original) The controller of claim 131, further comprising:
a keypad adapted to provide a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad;

wherein the processor is adapted to provide the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller and the keypad control signal.

137. (Original) The controller of claim 131, further comprising:
a display adapted to display a status of the controller.

138. (Original) A thermostat comprising the controller of claim 131.

139. (Original) The controller of claim 131, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

140. (Original) The controller of claim 131, wherein the receiver is a wireless receiver.

141. (Original) The controller of claim 140, wherein the receiver complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;

IEEE 802.11i;

Short Messaging Service (SMS); and

Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

142. (Original) The controller of claim 131, further comprising:
a memory adapted to store a schedule; and
wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the schedule.

143. (Original) The controller of claim 142:

wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the schedule stored in the memory when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

144. (Original) The controller of claim 143:

wherein the memory is non-volatile.

145. (Original) A controller for controlling an environmental control unit, the controller comprising:

receiver means for receiving a signal representing digital data;

media access controller means for obtaining the digital data from the signal, and

processor means for producing a control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means; and

output circuit means for providing the control signal to the environmental control unit.

146. (Original) The controller of claim 145, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and

meteorological conditions.

147. (Original) The controller of claim 145:

wherein the receiver means receives a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors means in response to environmental conditions; and

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the sensor signal.

148. (Original) The controller of claim 147, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a sunlight intensity,

an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

149. (Original) The controller of claim 147, further comprising:

the one or more sensors means.

150. (Original) The controller of claim 145, further comprising:

keypad means for providing a keypad control signal in response to operation of the keypad means;

wherein the processor means provides the control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means and the keypad control signal.

151. (Original) The controller of claim 145, further comprising:

display means for displaying a status of the controller means.

152. (Original) A thermostat comprising the controller of claim 145.

153. (Original) The controller of claim 145, wherein the processor and the media access controller are implemented together as a single integrated circuit.

154. (Original) The controller of claim 145, wherein the receiver means is wireless.

155. (Original) The controller of claim 154, wherein the receiver means complies with a standard selected from the group consisting of:

IEEE 802.11;

IEEE 802.11a;

IEEE 802.11b;

IEEE 802.11g;

IEEE 802.11h;

IEEE 802.11i;

Short Messaging Service (SMS); and

Analog Display Service Interface (ADSI).

156. (Original) The controller of claim 145, further comprising:

memory means for storing a schedule; and

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the schedule.

157. (Original) The controller of claim 156:

wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the schedule stored in the memory means when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

158. (Original) The controller of claim 157:

wherein the memory means is non-volatile.

159. (Original) A method for controlling an environmental control unit, the method comprising:

receiving a signal representing digital data;

obtaining the digital data from the signal; and

providing a control signal to the environmental control unit based on the digital data.

160. (Original) The method of claim 159, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and

meteorological conditions.

161. (Original) The method of claim 159, further comprising:

receiving a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors in response to environmental conditions; and
providing the control signal based on the digital data and the sensor signal.

162. (Original) The method of claim 161, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

a sunlight intensity,
an ambient temperature, and
a relative humidity.

163. (Original) The method of claim 159, further comprising:
receiving a keypad control signal representing operation of a keypad; and
providing the control signal based on the digital data and the keypad control signal.

164. (Original) The method of claim 159, further comprising:
displaying a status of the sprinkler controller.

165. (Original) The method of claim 159, further comprising:
storing a schedule; and
wherein control signal is based on the schedule.

166. (Original) The method of claim 165, further comprising:

producing the control signal based on the stored schedule when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

167. (Original) A computer program embodying instructions executable by a computer to control an environmental control unit, the computer program comprising:
obtaining digital data from a received signal representing the digital data; and
providing a control signal to the environmental control unit based on the digital data.

168. (Original) The computer program of claim 167, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:
a desired ambient temperature; and
meteorological conditions.

169. (Original) The computer program of claim 167, further comprising:
receiving a sensor signal provided by one or more sensors in response to environmental conditions; and
providing the control signal based on the data and the sensor signal.

170. (Original) The computer program of claim 169, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:
a sunlight intensity,
an ambient temperature, and

a relative humidity.

171. (Original) The computer program of claim 167, further comprising:
receiving a keypad control signal representing operation of a keypad; and
providing the control signal based on the digital data and the keypad control
signal.

172. (Original) The computer program of claim 167, further comprising:
displaying a status of the sprinkler controller.

173. (Original) The computer program of claim 167, further comprising:
storing a schedule; and
wherein control signal is based on the schedule.

174. (Original) The computer program of claim 173:
producing the control signal based on the stored schedule when the signal
representing the digital data is unavailable.

175. (Original) An integrated circuit to control a controller for controlling an
environmental control unit, the integrated circuit comprising:

a media access controller adapted to obtain digital data from a signal received by
a receiver of the controller, the signal representing the digital data; and

a processor adapted to produce a control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller;

wherein the controller provides the control signal to the environmental control unit.

176. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 175, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

sunlight intensity;

an ambient temperature; and

a relative humidity.

177. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 175, further comprising a display, and wherein:

the processor causes the display to display a status of the controller.

178. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 175, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and

meteorological conditions.

179. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 175, further comprising:

a memory adapted to store a schedule; and

wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the schedule.

180. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 179:

wherein the processor is further adapted to produce the control signal based on the schedule stored in the memory when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

181. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 180:

wherein the memory is non-volatile.

182. (Original) An integrated circuit to control a controller for controlling an environmental control unit, the integrated circuit comprising:

media access controller means for obtaining digital data from a signal received by a receiver of the controller, the signal representing the digital data; and

processor means for producing a control signal based on the digital data obtained by the media access controller means;

wherein the controller provides the control signal to the environmental control unit.

183. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 182, wherein the sensor signal represents at least one of the group comprising:

sunlight intensity;

an ambient temperature; and
a relative humidity.

184. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 182, further comprising a display, and wherein:

the processor means causes the display to display a status of the controller.

185. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 182, wherein the digital data comprises data representing at least one of the group comprising:

a desired ambient temperature; and
meteorological conditions.

186. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 182, further comprising:
memory means for storing a schedule; and
wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the schedule.

187. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 186:
wherein the processor means produces the control signal based on the schedule stored in the memory means when the signal representing the digital data is unavailable.

188. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 187:
wherein the memory means is non-volatile.

189. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 10, wherein the receiver comprises pager technology.

190. (Original) The sprinkler system of claim 24, wherein the receiver means comprises pager technology.

191. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 38, wherein the receiver comprises pager technology.

192. (Original) The sprinkler controller of claim 52, wherein the receiver means comprises pager technology.

193. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 113, wherein the receiver comprises pager technology.

194. (Original) The environmental control system of claim 126, wherein the receiver means comprises pager technology.

195. (Original) The controller of claim 140, wherein the receiver comprises pager technology.

196. (Original) The controller system of claim 154, wherein the receiver means comprises pager technology.